Robin Hood and the Butcher.

To

The Tune of, Robin Hood and the Begger.

COme all you brave gallants & liſten a while,
with hey down down an a down,
that are in the Bowers within,
For of Robin Hood that Archer good,
a ſong I intend for to ſing.

Upon a time it chanced ſo,
with hey, &c.
bold Robin in Forreſt did ſpy,
A jolly Butcher, with a bonny fine Mare,
with his fleſh to the Market did hye.

Good morrow good fellow, ſaid jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
what food haſt, tell unto me,
And thy Trade to me tell, and where thou doſt dwell,
for I like well thy company.

The Butcher he anſwered jolly Robin,
with a hey, &c.
no matter where I dwell,
For a Butcher I am, and to Nottingham,
I am going my fleſh to ſell.

What is price of thy fleſh ſaid jolly Robin?
with hey, &c.
come tell it ſoon unto me,
And the price of thy Mare, be ſhe never ſo dear,
for a Butcher fain would I be.

The price of my fleſh the Butcher repli'd,
with hey, &c.
I ſoon will tell unto thee,
With my bonny Mare, and they are not dear,
four mark thou muſt give unto me,

Four mark I will give thee, ſaith jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
four mark it ſhall be thy fee,
Thy money come count, and let me mount,
for a Butcher I fain would be.

Now Robin he is to Nottingham gone,
with hey, &c.
his Butchers trade for to begin
With good intent to the Sheriff he went,
and there he took up his Inn.

When other Butchers they opened their meat,
with hey, &c.
bold Robin he then begun
But how for to ſell he knew not well,
for a Butcher he was but young.

When other Butchers no meat could ſell,
with hey, &c.
Robin got both gold and fee,
For he ſold more meat for one penny
than others could do for three.

But when he ſold his meat ſo faſt,
with hey, &c.
no Butcher by him could thrive,
For he ſold more meat for one penny,
than others could do for five.

Which made the Butchers of Nottingham,
with hey, &c.
to ſtudy as they did ſtand,
Saying ſurely he was ſome Prodigal,
that hath ſold his Fathers Land.

The Butchers they ſtepped to jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
acquainted with him for to be,
Come brother one ſaid, we be all of one Trade,
come will you go dine with me.

Accurſt of his heart, ſaid jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
that a Butcher doth deny,
I will go with you my brethren true,
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But when to the Sheriffs houſe they came,
with hey down, down, an a down
to dinner they hied apace,
And Robin he, the man muſt be,
before them all to ſay Grace.

Pray God bleſs us all ſaid Jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
and our meat within this place,
A Cup of Sack ſo good, will nouriſh our blood,
and ſo I do end my Grace.

Come fill us more wine, ſaid Jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
let us merry be while we do ſtay,
For wine and good cheer, be it never ſo dear,
I vow I the reckning will pay.

Come brother be merry ſaid Jolly Robin,
with hey, &c.
let us drink and never give oer,
For the ſhot I will pay, ere I go my way,
if it coſt me five pounds and more.

This is a mad blade, the Butlers then ſaid,
with hey, &c.
ſaies the Sheriff he is ſome Prodigal,
That ſome Land has ſold for ſilver and gold,
and now he doth mean to ſpend all.

Haſt thou any horn beaſts, the Sheriff repli'd,
with hey, &c.
good fellow to ſell unto me?
Yes that I have good Maſter Sheriff,
I have hundreds two or three.

And a hundred acre of good free Land
with hey, &c.
if you pleaſe it to ſee,
And I'le make you as good aſſurance of it,
as ever my Father made me.

The Sheriff he ſaddled a good palfrey
with hey, &c.
with three hundred pound in gold,
And away he went with bold Robin Hood,
his horned beaſts to behold.

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Away then the Sheriff and Robin did ride,
with hey, &c.
to the Foreſt of merry Sherwood.
Then the Sheriff did ſay, God bleſs us this day
from a man they call Robin Hood.

But when that a little further they came,
with hey, &c.
bold Robin he chanced to eſpy
A hundred head of good red Deer
come tripping the Sheriff full nigh.

How like you my horned beaſts good Maſter She-
with hey, &c. (riff,
they be fat and fair for to ſee
I tell thee good fellow, I would I were gone,
for I like not thy company.

Then Robin he ſet his horn to his mouth,
with hey &c.
and blew but blaſts three,
Then quickly anon there came little John,
and all his company.

What is your will, then ſaid little John,
with hey, &c.
good Maſter come tell it to me,
I have brought hither the Sheriff of Nottingham
this day to dine with thee.

He is welcome to me then ſaid little John,
with hey, &c.
I hope he will honeſtly pay,
I know he has gold, if it be but well told,
will ſerve us to drink a whole day.

Then Robin took his mantle from his back,
with hey, &c.
and laid it upon the ground,
And out of the Sheriffs Portmantle
he told three hundred pound.

Then Robin he brought him thorow the wood,
with hey, &c.
and ſet him on his dapple gray,
O have me commended to your wife at home,
ſo Robin went laughing away.

Entered according to Order, Finis. T, R